| Decade | Growth Rate |
|---|---|
| 1961—71 | 2.20% |
| 1971—81 | 2.22% |
| 1981—91 | 2.14% |
| 1991—01 | 1.93% |

While in absolute terms the population of India has increased by 180.6 millions during the decade 1991-2001, however, the change in net addition has shown a steady declining trend starting from 1991. Undoubtedly a combination of the population momentum and the method mix widely adopted for fertility regulation has ensured that the net additionally is on the decrease.

India adopted a comprehensive and holistic National Population Policy (NPP) in February 2000 with clearly articulated objectives, strategic themes and operational strategies. Certain National Socio Demographic Goals to be achieved by 2010 have been formulated with the objective of achieving population stabilisation in the country by 2045.

**Availability of life saving drugs**

2227. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of some of the CGHS beneficiaries for Bilocompine Nitrate 2 per cent Minims eye drug certified as life saving drug by the specialist of AIIMS, New Delhi, which was to be imported, is pending for more than two months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for ensuring timely availability of this life saving drug for the CGHS beneficiaries in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir.

However, it may be mentioned that his drug has been supplied to one beneficiary viz. Shri J.G. Ramachandani on 22.3.2002.

(b) In view of (a) above the question does not arise.

(c) All efforts are made to ensure timely supply of imported drugs, if required, to the CGHS beneficiaries.

**Scam in purchase of drugs by the MSO**

†2228. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a scam of crores of rupees has been made by the Medical Stores Organization in purchase of drugs;

(b) if so, whether the said organization was purchasing spurious drugs;

(c) if so, the amount involved in the scam, alongwith the quantity of spurious drugs supplied by it; and

(d) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the scam alongwith the details of the action taken against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No Sir.

(b) The question of purchasing spurious drugs by Medical Stores Organisation does not arise. Every batch of medicine is subjected to test in Government approved laboratory and supply is accpeted only after a receipt of satisfactory test report.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Availability of condoms in rural Areas**

2229. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.